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Letter dated 21 November 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the Communiqué of the Twentieth Summit of the Great Lakes Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi, held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, on 16 November 2003 (see annex).

The Government of Burundi draws the attention of the Security Council to paragraph 13 of the Communiqué, which advocates the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping force in Burundi, and trusts that the Council will give it due consideration.

I should like the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Léonidas **Nkingiye**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 21 November 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English]

Communiqué of the Twentieth Summit of the Great Lakes Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi

At the invitation of the Chairperson, HE President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda, a Summit of the Great Lakes Regional Peace Initiative on Burundi took place in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on 16 November 2003.

It was attended by the following Heads of State and Representatives of Governments:

- HE President Joaquim Chissano, President of Mozambique and Chairperson of the African Union,
- HE President Joseph Kabila, of the Democratic Republic of Congo,
- HE Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, of Ethiopia,
- HE Deputy President Jacob Zuma, of South Africa, Facilitator of the Burundi peace process,
- HE Ali Mohammed Shein, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, representing the Deputy Chairperson, President Mkapa,
- His Excellency Ondo Methogo, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Gabon,
- HE President Domitien Ndayizeye leading the delegation of the Transitional Government of Burundi, (TGOB) and the Legal Representative of the CNDD-FDD, Pierre Nkurunziza, leading the delegation of the CNDD-FDD,
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Rwanda, Dr Charles Murigande,
- H E Njuguna Ngunjiri, High Commissioner of the Republic of Kenya, to the United Republic of Tanzania,
- His Excellency N. Mumba, Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia

Also present were:

- The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Burundi, Ambassador Berhanu Dinka

- Vice Chairman of the African Union Commission, Patrick Mazimhaka.
- The Special Representative of the African Union in Burundi and Head of the African Mission in Burundi, Ambassador Mamadou Bah.

The Summit:

1. **Reviewed** the situation in Burundi, and, following a briefing by the Facilitator, Deputy President Zuma, the leaders welcomed the extensive progress made and the conclusion of discussions on all outstanding matters, and the resultant signing in Pretoria of the Protocol on Political, Defence, Security and Power Sharing in Pretoria on 8 October 2003, and the Protocol on Outstanding Political Defence and Security Power Sharing Issues in Burundi on 2 November 2003.

2. **Welcomed** the demonstrated commitment by the Transitional Government of Burundi and the CNDD-FDD to the permanent cessation of hostilities, establishment of the rule of law, formation of a national army consisting of government forces and combatants of the armed political parties and establishment of power sharing within the framework of a broad-based Transitional Government.

3. **Endorsed** the two agreements signed in Pretoria and congratulated the TGoB and CNDD-FDD for putting their differences aside and committing themselves to working together to rebuild their country.

4. **Directed** the signatories to speedily implement all agreements signed, within the agreed timeframes, to move the peace process forward.

5. **Called** upon all Burundian Parties to proceed expeditiously to prepare and conduct free and fair elections in Burundi as per the agreed schedule for the Transition.

6. Urged the Region and the Facilitation, as guarantors, to continue to monitor the implementation of the agreements.

7. **Recognized** the work already being done to implement the agreements, such as progress made towards the reconstitution of the Transitional Government of Burundi in a manner that will include the CNDD-FDD, and the visit to Bujumbura by a delegation of the CNDD-FDD, led by Secretary-General Hussein Rajabu, on 7 November 2003, which laid the basis for the participation of the CNDD-FDD in the African Mission and its structures.

8. **Acknowledged the key contribution of:**

- The African Union for consistent and active support, from the period of the leadership of President Mbeki to the current Chairperson, President Chissano, and for the pragmatic mechanism and operation of the African Mission in Burundi, which has become a shining example and model of African solutions to continental security challenges.

- The Great Lakes Regional Initiative on Burundi, particularly the Chairperson, President Museveni and Vice-Chairperson President Mkapa, for outstanding leadership of the initiative and providing unwavering support to the Facilitation Team.

- All Heads of State within the Great Lakes region and neighbouring states, for continuous support and commitment to finding a solution to the long conflict.

- President Mbeki for his active role in the negotiations leading to the signing of the agreements of 8 October 2003 and 2 November 2003 in Pretoria and Deputy President Zuma as Facilitator for tireless efforts over the last two years to assist the two parties to reach common ground.

- The countries contributing troops to the African Mission; Ethiopia, Mozambique and South Africa for their act of sacrifice and welcomed the fact that the mission is now in full operation.

- The United Nations and European Union as well as the international community as a whole for political and material support to the peace process.

- All civilian and military experts from the region, Facilitation, the African Union and United Nations as well as the secretariat for efficient and effective support to the process.

9. The Summit **called upon** the Palipehutu-FNL of Agathon Rwasa to immediately suspend hostilities and acts of violence and to participate in the negotiations with the TGoB within a maximum of three months. After this deadline, and in the case of a categorical refusal to join the negotiation process, the Burundi people, the Regional Initiative on Burundi and the African Union will consider it to be an organization that is against peace and stability in Burundi and will treat it as such.

10. Called upon the UN, EU and the international community as a whole to support this position of the region and AU regarding Palipehutu-FNL.

11. Mandated the Facilitator to further engage Palipehutu-FNL to begin negotiations with the Transitional Government.

12. **Appealed** to the United Nations Security Council to consider providing direct support to the process so that the momentum for the successful implementation is sustained.

13. **Mandated** the Facilitator, Deputy President Zuma to report to the United Nations Security Council and request them to deploy a peacekeeping operation, taking into full account the qualitative change that has taken place following the signing of the Pretoria Protocols which have created a total condition of peace and stability in over 95% of the territory of Burundi.

14. **Noted** that the negotiations process between the TGoB and CNDD-FDD had ended positively in a manner that was

a major boost for the peace process in Burundi and the region, and which raised hopes for the successful resolution of conflicts within the African continent.

15. **Expressed** special appreciation to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for hosting the numerous Summits on Burundi as well as the supportive role the country has played in resolution of conflicts historically in the continent.

16. **Paid special tribute** to the late President Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and Former President Nelson Mandela for laying a strong foundation for peace and reconciliation in Burundi.

17. **Wished** the signatories well during the implementation of the agreements and **assured** them of the support of the region as well as the continent.

Issued at Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 16 November 2003.